Town of Frederick Town Board



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IM 2009-008

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Edward Byrne Memorial Justice Assistance Grant	
Agenda Date:	Town Board Meeting – April 14, 2009
Attachments:	a. Draft of grant applicationb. Memorandum on Police Fitness Program
Issue/Request:	
The American Recov Town of Frederick fo	very and Reinvestment Act of 2009 has provided for a grant of up to \$15,798 for the or criminal justice related purposes. The deadline for this grant is May 18, 2009.
Submitted by:	Chief of Police
Approved for Prese	Town Administrator
AV Use Anticipated	Projector Laptop
Certification of Boa	ard Review: Town Clerk Date

Detail of Issue/Request:

The 2009 Budget of the Town of Frederick shows the Physical Agility Fitness Test for the Police Department as an unfunded department request. The proposal for the budget was based on a cooperative purchase of the test in conjunction with the Town of Firestone and the City of Dacono. That proposal, if successful, would have resulted in the three communities sharing the cost of the development and implementation of the test.

Police physical fitness tests are intended to demonstrate that candidates for the police service, or inservice officers, can perform all of the essential functions of the job. Such tests have been in use in many departments around the country for years. The Town of Frederick uses the services of a clinic in Longmont to test the physical abilities of applicants for police officer positions. That process is expensive but it is also thorough. It is neither practical nor economical to test in-service personnel on a regular basis at such a clinic. The lack of a test for in-service personnel has been viewed negatively by the courts when a challenge to the screening of applicants has occurred, or when a question of a current officer arises as to his or her ability to perform the essential functions of the job. Officers that are unable to perform the essential functions of the job are a liability to themselves, the public and their fellow officers. They are at risk of death, injury, or illness due to their inadequate fitness.

Legal/Political Considerations:

Not Applicable

Alternatives/Options:

The only other unfunded department request for the police department was the purchase of two new police vehicles. This grant could not be properly used for the purchase of vehicles.

Financial Considerations:

Not Applicable

Staff Recommendation:

It is recommended that the application for the grant be submitted.